

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 6, 2013
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:172

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Change Menifee County from a Zone 3 to a Zone 4 Deer Area.

Justification: In January 2013, the Menifee County Fish and Game Club notified the League of Kentucky Sportsman with their concerns. President Mark Nethery forwarded their concerns to Dr. Waldrop, Commissioner Ray and Commissioner Fryman. The Club feels the deer population is too low and want all doe harvest stopped. In 2005, the estimated deer population was 13 deer per square mile. Since then the population has increased to 15 deer per square mile. The Wildlife Division cannot recommend no doe harvest; however, moving to a zone 4 is unlikely to trigger too much increase in deer in the heavily forested area. There is no biological concern with going to a zone 4, and it was requested by the Club.

Effective Date: September 6, 2014

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input checked="checked" type="checkbox"/> X File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Motion made by: _____	

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 6, 2013
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:178

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: 2014 - 2015 Deer Management Recommendations

The Wildlife Division recommended the following changes for each WMA:

1. Open **Lloyd and J.C. Williams WMAs** in the Bluegrass Region under statewide regulations for youth firearms. (Grant and Nelson Counties, 5th and 4th Districts)

Justification: Regional staff identified these 2 as areas where maximum youth opportunity could be offered with low potential for conflicts with other users and neighboring landowners.

2. **Dewey Lake WMA** (Floyd County, 7th District)

Discuss possible institution of a quota gun hunt for the 1st weekend of December.

Justification: Archery/crossbow harvest on Dewey Lake WMA is comparable to that on WMAs within the region and anecdotal reports indicate deer densities are similar. Preliminary results from a herd health check conducted on the area this summer indicated herd density has likely increased since the last herd health check was conducted in 1997 (final results from SCWDS will not be available for several more weeks). Spotlight counts will be conducted on the WMA during the week of October 21-25 to further assess densities and to provide a baseline for future counts to monitor herd response to additional hunting.

3. **Beaver Creek WMA** (McCreary, Pulaski Counties, 9th District)

Make the modern gun quota hunt buck-only for 3 years minimum.

Justification: About ½ the does taken off the area are by bow/crossbow hunters and ½ during the quota gun hunt. In the wake of a significant EHD outbreak in the area during 2012, and a history of hunter complaints about deer numbers on the area, significant changes are needed to improve deer herd density on this popular area. The hunt will default back to either-sex for 2017 if deer sighting reports from hunters and annual population assessments conducted by staff on the WMA do not indicate a need to continue the buck-only.

4. **Big Rivers WMA** (Union & Crittendon Counties, 2nd & 1st Districts)

Move quota hunt to 1st weekend in November.

Justification: Currently the hunt is held the 2nd weekend; staff would prefer the hunt be held earlier to free staff to collect CWD samples during the opening weekend of statewide modern gun season.

5. Yellowbank WMA (Breckinridge County, 3rd District) and Paul Van Booven WMA (Breathitt County, 7th District)

Remove 15" restriction.

Justification: The efficacy of 15" restrictions for increasing harvest of bucks >2.5 years old has been mixed on public areas and data on the benefits of spread restrictions on open-access KY public land areas are lacking. In the case of PVB, because there has never been a staffed check station, there is no way to enforce or assess the spread limit. However, given the abundance of public hunting opportunity in the area and lack of any complaints about deer numbers on the WMA, no evidence exists that protection of yearling bucks with a spread restriction is needed or justified. Yellowbank is archery/crossbow only for adults; without a quota hunt and staffed check station it is unknown whether hunters are abiding by the restriction and if the restriction is having any impact on protection or high grading of yearling bucks and harvest of older age bucks.

Effective Date: September 2014

Action Requested of Commission:

☒ **File the Regulation**

☐ **Other:** _____

Action Taken by Commission:

☐ **File the Regulation**

☐ **Other:** _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: **Approved** **Denied** **Referred back to Committee**

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 6, 2013
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: none

Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Elk Tag recommendation

Although no regulation action is needed, the Wildlife Division will provide an elk tag recommendation for the 2014 hunting season.

Effective Date:

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Motion made by: _____	
Motion Seconded by: _____	
Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee	

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 6, 2013
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:132 Regular or Emergency: Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Elk Quota hunts

The Wildlife Division made the following recommendation:

Allow party applications for Limited Entry Areas

The Wildlife Division recommended allowing up to 5 hunters drawn for elk tags to apply as a party for an LEA.

Justification: Occasionally 2 or more people drawn for the elk hunt wish to hunt together (for example, this year a father and son were drawn for bull archery permits and both applied for the Hazard LEA, but only 1 was drawn for the LEA). Allowing application as a party for the LEAs will increase hunter satisfaction.

Effective Date: May 2014

Action Requested of Commission:	Action Taken by Commission:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
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Motion made by: _____	
Motion Seconded by: _____	
Action: Approved Denied Referred back to Committee	

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 6, 2013
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:251

Regular or Emergency:

Proposed Recommendation: Furbearer Trapping Season Recommendations for 2014

The Wildlife Division made the following recommendations:

A. Time of Season Opener for Furbearer Trapping Season

The Wildlife Division recommended to change the time that the furbearer trapping season opens from noon on the third day of the modern gun season for deer, to one-half hour before sunrise on that day.

Justification: In 2013, the United Trappers of Kentucky and Kentucky Fur Takers requested that the KDFWR investigate the feasibility of amending the time of the season opener for trapping furbearers. Currently, there is no biological justification to maintain a season opening time of 12:00 PM. Likewise, this proposed action would increase regulatory consistency with respect to hunting and trapping seasons for furbearers.

B. Trapping Requirements for Furbearers

The Wildlife Division recommended to allow the use of canine-specific, spring-assisted snares by fur trappers and Nuisance Wildlife Control Operators (NWCOS).

Justification: The Wildlife Division has received continued requests from NWCOS to investigate the feasibility of allowing the use of Collarum™ snare devices. These live capture devices use a spring-assisted trigger to throw a cable loop over the head and around the neck of canines. Collarum-type snare devices enable NWCOS to set an efficient canine-specific trap for coyotes in urban settings where domestic dogs could be present. This proposed action would require regulatory cleanup as 301 KAR 2:251 currently prohibits the use of power or spring-assisted snares for the trapping of furbearers.

Effective Date: May 2014

Action Requested of Commission:

☒ **File the Regulation**

☐ **Other:** _____

Action Taken by Commission:

☐ **File the Regulation**

☐ **Other:** _____

Motion made by: _____

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: Approved

Denied

Referred back to Committee

Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Commission Meeting
REQUEST FOR COMMISSION ACTION
December 6, 2013
Division: Wildlife

Regulation Number: 301 KAR 2:049; 301KAR 2:125 **Regular or Emergency:** Regular

Proposed Recommendation: Hunting Coyotes at Night on Public Lands

The Wildlife Division recommended prohibition of hunting coyotes at night on all federally-managed properties.

Justification: Federal lands managed for outdoor recreation offer a wide array of sporting activities that are largely unique to those properties. Camping and hiking, in particular, are focal activities on properties managed by the U.S. Forest Service, National Park Service, and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Prohibiting the hunting of coyotes at night on federal lands will prevent user conflicts where non-hunting outdoor activities are more prevalent. Those concerns have already been voiced to the Wildlife Division from Daniel Boone National Forest and Land Between the Lakes National Recreation Area.

Effective Date: May 2014

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<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation	<input type="checkbox"/> File the Regulation
<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____
Motion made by: _____	

Motion Seconded by: _____

Action: **Approved** **Denied** **Referred back to Committee**